

Commission to Review and Advise on Services to At-Risk Adolescent Youth in New Hampshire Exec. Order 2014-8

March 11, 2016
Meeting Minutes

**Meeting held: Rooms 206-208
Legislative Office Building
Concord, New Hampshire**

1. Call to order 11AM : Present at meeting: Mary Ann Cooney (for Commissioner Meyers), Chair, Judge Carroll, Mike Skibbie, Martha Kane, Dave Dionne, Nicole Roder, Michele Harlan

2. Approval of minutes from January 29, 2016 – Minutes moved by Commissioner Dionne; Second by Commissioner Carroll. Accepted unanimously.

3. Presentation from Division for Children Youth and Families on the cost of services for 17 year olds to date. Information was provided by Lorraine Bartlett, Director for DCYF. A document was distributed to Commission members that showed data of cost of all services to youth age 17 since the law took place. Mr. Skibbie expressed concerns about how the data was presented and questioned if the data fully detailed a clear picture of cost of services only to 17 year old youth. (example: How many youth were being served in Juvenile Justice and Sununu Youth Services Center (SYSC) under prior law that should be distinguished from the youth now being new to the population?)

Considerable discussion ensued with questions posed to Director Bartlett on the census at SYSC for 17 year old offenders, and other data on 17 year old not in residential care and receiving community based services. Superintendent Dionne expressed some interest in data that may be available through the county system. Director Bartlett responded to the question about “what percentage of youth are placed at SYSC” to which she mentioned that of the over 1000 JJ youth served the current average daily census is 70 youth.

Other items raised during this discussion of cost were the perception of SYSC utilization by courts for placement of youth who should be served in the community due to lack of resources locally. As noted by one Commission member, the Interim Report recommends an inventory of JJ services within communities and especially those for diversion purposes.

Further, members expressed concerns for the availability of substance abuse services locally.

Request was made for:

- 17 year old cost: additional break down of data by Fiscal years 14/15 and 16; those on CHINS vs other juvenile status
- The offences committed for SYSC youth
- Residential cost vs SYSC
- Weekly snapshots of youth in SYSC – especially for trend on 17 year old population.
- Is there a correlation or relationship with the Emergency Department data on mental health and JJ. (confidentiality issues and data access challenge)

4. Final Approval of Interim Report: the Commission voted to approve the report with a recommendation that there be a final report completed soon that includes additional information such as Background, the presentations made to the Commission, and some edits to document.

5. Public Comment – none.

6. Adjourned at 1PM: moved by Rodler; second by Harlan.